



USAID
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CYPRUS

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Learning by Doing and Teaching By Example: Pilot Project Participants Share At-Home Composting Experience



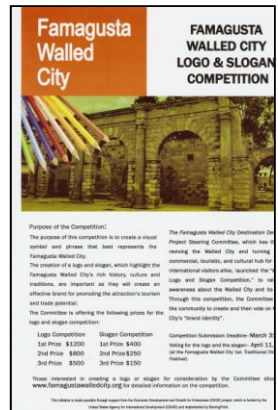
SAVE organized a home composting field training for agricultural extension service interns, EU solid waste experts and members of the local press in Beyarmudu/Pergamos. Building on the results of SAVE's 6-month pilot in the village and using pilot participants as a resource, the training including technical presentations on composting and its benefits and site visits to the pilot households. The training, like the pilot composting pilot program itself, was designed to improve local capacity to assess, implement and evaluate alternative, practical and locally driven solid waste management techniques.



Logo and Slogan Needed! Famagusta Competition Launched

The Walled City of Famagusta is endowed with an unparalleled wealth of cultural heritage and beauty. Unlike in times past, however, its potential as a center for visitors and trade is currently unrecognized. To remedy this, and with USAID support, a group of local leaders, business people and residents are working together as the "Famagusta Walled City Destination Development Project Steering Committee" to increase appreciation of the City's unique place in history and to inspire interest in improving conditions within the City

for residents and visitors. To kick off their initiative, the Committee has begun a public awareness campaign and is organizing a logo and slogan competition. Anyone interested in Famagusta can submit logo and slogan designs, which will be evaluated for creativity, marketability and functionality



and then displayed at the festival planned for April 11 where people will be able to vote on them. More information can be found at www.famagustawalledcity.org.

The mission of USAID/Cyprus is to encourage cooperation between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot individuals and organizations to reduce tensions and promote a climate that will foster reconciliation and a durable peace settlement.

Economic Development and Growth for Enterprises

With EDGE's support, the Buyukkonuk/Komi Kebir Eco-Tourism Association launched its website, www.ecotourismcyprus.org, which provides information on the village, its history, and its traditions as well as on the services available to visitors. Through the website, the Association hopes to increase visitors to the region while promoting environmental awareness. Plans are also underway for the third annual EcoDay celebration, which will be in the village on May 3, 2009. EDGE conducted a strategic planning session for the TC Chamber of Shopkeepers and Artisans, another broad-based business association trying to better serve its members and more effectively engage in policy dialogue on economic and business issues. Having worked with participating firms before and during the events, EDGE is now following up on TC participation in this year's FruitLogistica, GulFood and the World of Perishables fairs to ensure that potential deals are pursued, contacts maintained and information passed along.

Supporting Activities that Value the Environment

SAVE's work to promote xeriscaping and its guide to water-wise landscaping, "How Does Your Garden Grow in Cyprus", were featured in a special issue of the English-language **Living** magazine published out of Kyrenia. Plaster injection work to repair cracks at Panayia Pergamiotissa in Tatlisu/Akanthou was completed; the remaining plaster work will continue into April. SAVE published another "one page" guide; this one is focused on recognizing and managing iron bacteria, a contaminant of several local wells.

Action for Cooperation and Trust

Five new ACT peacebuilding initiatives are now underway that will link citizen voices to the ongoing peace process. "Cyprus 2010" will utilize public opinion polls, focus group discussions, interviews with leading personalities, and video documentaries to engage the public, as well as stakeholder panels, academic research and conferences to formulate and debate policy recommendations. A community media center and projects focused on engaging civil society organizations, youth and the business communities in the reconciliation process round out this effort and complement ACT's direct support to the peace process. The Kontea Heritage Circle Preservation Committee continues to make progress as the project team of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot architects and engineers—who have been working together for two years—finally see their vision of an improved village realized. The first phase, a "Peace Park" where the past and current villagers can meet, socialize and plan activities together, will be launched in the near future.

Resource Efficiency Achievement Project

REAP is preparing for its close-out and will be holding a closing reception to highlight the project's accomplishments. Participants will include REAP staff, USAID/Cyprus, the U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission, local stakeholders, and other USAID partners.

With EDGE's support both before and during the events, TC firms participated in the Fruit Logistica 2009 and GulFood 2009 again this year. Besides building their networks and experience as exhibitors, several firms came away with potentially lucrative deals and a better understanding of the global marketplace.



News from Nicosia

March 11

President Demetris Christofias and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat met to discuss "EU matters."

OUR PROJECTS

- The **Action for Cooperation and Trust (ACT)** program mainstreams the concepts of conflict resolution in over 120 projects that encourage Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots to work on issues of common concern and solve problems together. Projects are currently underway in the areas of youth, education and tolerance, civil society strengthening, sustainable development and cultural heritage preservation. ACT is funded through a cooperative agreement between USAID and the UN Development Program (UNDP).
- The **Cyprus Partnership for Economic Growth (CyPEG)** includes activities that support economic growth in the Turkish Cypriot community to decrease the disparities between the communities and promote reconciliation. CyPEG is implemented by U.S. contractors under different USAID contract mechanisms.
 - The objective of the **Economic Development and Growth for Enterprises (EDGE)** project is to strengthen the domestic and international competitiveness of Turkish-Cypriot small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and help restructure the financial sector so that SMEs can thrive.
 - The **Resource Efficiency Achievement Program (REAP)** promotes more efficient use of water and energy by conducting audits and upgrades of representative business establishments and households. REAP also provides technical assistance to Turkish Cypriot energy experts.
 - The **Supporting Activities that Value the Environment (SAVE)** project focuses on improving (1) the competitiveness, financial status, and quality of basic services and infrastructure to more easily meet international and EU standards and (2) Turkish Cypriot capacity to manage natural and cultural resources for economic growth.
 - The **Capacity Development and Training (CADET)** project complements other USG-funded programs in Cyprus by providing capacity development and training in critical areas.